

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are set forth in response to the Final Office Action. As this amendment has been timely filed within the three-month statutory period, neither an extension of time nor a fee is required. In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1 through 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite due to incorporation of the term "supporting". Also, the Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,688,684 to Young et al. (Young), claims 1, 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,845,791 to Kawolics and claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 2,172,013 to Parry. Finally, the Examiner has rejected claims 3, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young alone as well as Kawolics alone, and also the Examiner has rejected claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parry alone.

In response the Applicants have amended claims 1 through 7 in view of the helpful suggestion of the Examiner during the telephonic conference of June 15, 2005. In that conference, the Examiner suggested that the recitation of a stacking device having "top and bottom parallel planar surfaces without holes" would be effective in overcoming the cited art and especially the Young reference. Accordingly, as the Applicants have amended claims 1 through 7 to recite "top and bottom parallel planar surfaces without holes", the Applicants believe that claims 1 through 7 now stand patentable and ready for allowance. Consequently, such action is respectfully requested.

*Interview Record
not accurate
(see PTO-413)*

DP 8/19/05